# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1061
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2001
PRESERVATION OF SKINS AND BONES OF TIGERS
PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether bones and skins of tigers are useful for medicinal purpose;

(b) if so, whether bones and skins of dead tigers are being burnt;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to preserve the bones and skins of tigers particularly the white ones?

## Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a), (b) & (c) : Traditional system of medicine recognises the medicinal value of tiger parts and bones. The use of tiger parts for medicinal purposes is not prevalent in this country but such use is quite common in Chinese pharmacopoeia. Government has decided the entire carcass of the tiger should be burnt in the presence of responsible officer to safeguard against pilferage of tiger bones for commercial purposes.

(d): Government of India do not propose to preserve the tiger bones and skins whether white or otherwise because such a practice would tempt people to indulge in tiger poaching in a bigger way. However, the State Governments may give tiger skins to museums and educational institutes for research and education purposes.